

Marie,

To-date, I haven't seen anything in the paper. This is big news though and should be told. I trust your press team will take the facts from Clark's email and tell the story to the Governor's benefit and to our state's benefit. The permanent party jobs represent higher paying salaries to the area and recognition that could attract other missions to Keesler or companies to the region - the compounding affect. At least we will promote it that way along our I-10 corridor.

Note: A correction in the numbers would be 615 students overall (385 officers and 230 enlisted).

In a July 11, 2009 announcement, the United States Air Force confirmed that Keeslar AFB, MS will be the home of the new Undergraduate Cyberspace Training(UCT). This training will include information to design,secure, assess, exploit, attack, and defend seven types of communication networks. This includes Telephony, Internet Protocol, Satellite, Land Mobile Radio, Industrial Control Systems, Integrated Air Defense, and Tactical Data Link.

The initial cadre of students will include 385 Officers (227 new accessions plus 158 Air National Guard/ Air Reserve/Civilian personnel). Variations of Undergraduate Cyber Training will also be developed as initial skills training for certain enlisted cyber operator career fields. The initial student throughput for these courses will be 230 students (115 that will crosstrain from other career fields along with 115 from the Guard and Reserve Forces). The initial student load for Undergraduate Cyberspace Training at Keesler will be approximately 685 students with an estimated increase of approximately 60 permanent party instructors. The initial start-up budget is \$11.6 M with the first class scheduled to start in 2010.

A survey team from Air Education and Training Command in San Antonio, TX visited Keesler to evaluate billeting, dining, classroom facilities, and base team support(utilities,community planning, base communications capability, environmental factors, and anti-terrorism issues). The team reported that Keesler is well positioned for a 2010 start-up of Undergraduate Cyber Training. The security sensitive portion of Keesler's existing training facilities will be expanded to accommodate this increase in classified training.

Larry, Marie.....

the information here is what was sent out from the Air Force in the 11 Jul announcement. This will be the INITIAL cadre of Cyber Training. It WILL grow as this domain is expanded in the US war-fighting arsenal. I have seen estimates that the student load will be over 1400 students per year. That will exceed the number of pilots we produce in the Air Force each year. It seems to me that the Governor would want to

announce this as a part of the Governor's Conference this week-end. Since the Air Force just recently announced that the Cyberspace Numbered Air Force Headquarters will be at Lackland, AFB in Texas, he could emphasize how all states are becoming a part of this nation's defense against cyber attacks.

For sure, this is a BIG DEAL for Mississippi! If you just take the increase in the budget(\$11M) for start-up and add to the salaries of the increased # of students/instructors involved (estimated \$14-16 M) and add in the standard economic multiplier.....it will be a substantial economic boost for our community. Furthermore, we will be the hub of the high-tech training associated with the exploration of all aspects of the Cyberspace domain. It will solidify the importance of Keesler AFB to the defense of this country for many, many years to come. In my mind, it is worth telling the story so others know about the increased role Mississippi plays in the defense industry and the technical expertise we bring to the table.

Let me know if you need anything else. I will be out of town after today until Saturday. Therefore, if you need something else, get to me today and I will try to get it to you today. Griff